Dkt. No.: 044487-0133

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

licant:

Xiangjun LIU

Title:

METHOD FOR DETERMINING

ALLELES

Appl. No.:

09/943,416

Filing Date:

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Examiner:

Strzelecka, Teresa E.

Art Unit:

1637

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the date below. Kathryn E. Cox (Printed Name)

> December 28, 2004 (Date of Deposit)

## AMENDMENT AND REPLY UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111

Commissioner for Patents PO Box 1450 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Sir:

This communication is responsive to the non-final Office Action dated September 9, 2004, concerning the above-referenced patent application. The three-month shortened statutory period for response to the Office Action expired on December 9, 2004, therefore, applicant believes that with petition and payment for a one-month extension of time, this response is timely filed. No additional fee is believed to be due for this filing; however, should any additional fee be due, the Patent Office is hereby authorized to charge such fees to deposit account No. 50-2350. Additionally, should the extension of time petition be improper, applicant hereby petitions for extension under 37 C.F.R. §1.136 and authorizes payment of any such extensions fees to Deposit Account No. 50-2350 in order to make this communication timely. For the purpose of charging said deposit account, duplicates of pages 1 and the signature page of this response are submitted herewith.

Listing of the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this document.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 5 of this document.